

REMARKS/ARGUMENTS

Claims 1 through 4 have been amended. Claims 1 through 11 remain in the application.

Claims 2 and 3 were rejected under 35 USC §112, Second Paragraph, as being indefinite for failing to particularly point out and distinctly claim the subject matter which applicant regards as the invention. Applicant has amended claims 2 and 3 to more definitely define the term "affixing member". Therefore, it is respectfully submitted that claims 2 and 3, as amended, overcome the rejection under 35 USC §112, Second Paragraph, and are allowable over this rejection.

Claims 1 through 6 and 9 through 11 were rejected under 35 USC §102(b) as being anticipated by Domer. Applicant respectfully traverses this rejection.

U.S. Patent No. 5,013,166 to Domer discloses a torsion bar bearing.

In contradistinction, claim 1, as amended, claims a dynamic damper having a mass assembly including a plurality of discrete mass members. Each mass member having an inner surface, an outer surface, and a first and second affixing member for affixing the mass member to another mass member of the assembly. The first and second affixing members include a first and second tab arranged on one of the mass members and a first and second receptacle arranged on the other of the mass members. The mass member assembly being affixable to a rotary shaft.

Domer '166 does not disclose, teach or anticipate the present invention of claim 1, as amended. Specifically, Domer '166 does not disclose a dynamic damper having a first and second affixing member wherein the first and second member include a first and second tab arranged on one of the mass members and a first and second receptacle arranged on the other of the mass members. Nowhere does Domer '166 disclose, teach or even suggest the use of having a first and second affixing member arranged on each of the plurality of discrete mass members as

claimed in amended claim 1. As Domer '166 does not disclose, teach or even suggest the use of the first and second affixing members as claimed in amended claim 1, it is respectfully submitted that Domer '166 fails to disclose all of the limitations claimed by Applicant in claim 1, as amended. Therefore, it is respectfully submitted that claim 1, as amended, and the claims dependent there from, overcome the rejection under 35 USC §102(b) and are allowable over this rejection.

Claim 4, as amended, claims a dynamic damper comprising a mass member assembly including a plurality of mass members, each mass member having an inner surface extending from said mass member, an outer surface and a first affixing member arranged approximately 180° from a second affixing member. The mass member assembly being affixable to a rotary shaft. The dynamic damper also includes a plurality of elongated connecting members.

Domer '166 does not disclose, teach or anticipate the present invention of claim 4, as amended. Specifically, Domer '166 does not disclose a plurality of discrete mass members with each mass member having an inner surface extending from the mass member and a first affixing member arranged approximately 180° from a second affixing member for each discrete mass member. Nowhere does Domer '166 disclose, contemplate or even suggest the use of a first affixing member arranged approximately 180° from a second affixing member for each discrete mass member. Domer only discloses a single affixing member as indicated by numerals 3, 4 in Figure 1 for a mass member and discloses a snap-fit closure for a frame for a mass member as shown in Figures 5 and 6.. Hence, it is respectfully submitted that Domer '166 fails to disclose all of the limitations claimed by Applicant in claim 4, as amended. Therefore, it is respectfully submitted that claim 4, as amended, and the claims dependent there from overcome the rejection under 35 USC §102(b) and are allowable over this rejection.

Claims 7 and 8 were rejected under 35 USC §103(a) as being unpatentable over Domer '166. Applicant respectfully traverses this rejection.

Claims 7 and 8 are allowable over Domer '166 for the same reasons stated above for independent claim 4. Therefore, it is respectfully submitted that claims 7 and 8 overcome the rejection under 35 USC §103(a) and are allowable over this rejection.

If Applicant can be of any further assistance or provide any other information in the prosecution of this application, the Examiner is requested to call the undersigned at (248) 377-1290.

Respectfully submitted,

GKN AUTOMOTIVE, INC.

By: 

Mick A. Nylander (Reg. No. 37,200)
GKN Automotive, Inc.
3300 University Drive
Auburn Hills, MI 48326

Attorney for Applicant

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